

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 085145

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 SY-05 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:COCECIL:CEJ

APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

USCS:WMASON

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P 082113Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 085145

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, ETRD, EFIN, SA

SUBJECT: GOLD RETRIEVAL

REF: (A) JIDDA 2509, (B) STATE 82205, (C) JIDDA 2456

1. FURTHER INQUIRY WITH US CUSTOMS OFFICIALS CONFIRMS THAT TOTAL AMOUNT OF GOLD IN CUSTODY IN CHARLESTON IS 118 RPT 118 KILO BARS. USCS HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF WHEREABOUTS OF REMAINDER OF GOLD REPORTED LOST THOUGH IT APPEARS THAT AT LEAST PART OF SHIPMENT WAS OFF-LOADED IN JIDDA.

2. EVEN UNDER ALIREZA, OUR JUDGMENT IS THAT SAG EMBASSY IS MOST LIKELY TO ACT WITH DISPATCH WHEN OPERATING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM JIDDA. WE WILL BE HAPPY TO DIRECT EMBASSY OFFICIALS TO PROPER USCS CONTACTS, AND TO EXPLAIN TO THEM WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THE STEPS NECESSARY TO FILE THEIR PETITION TO RECLAIM GOLD NOW IN USG HANDS, BUT COMMUNICATION FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY IS PREFERRED METHOD OF INITIATING SAUDI EMBASSY ACTION. SISCO

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Message Attributes

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